



Family and Consumer Advocacy and Support Group

Progress Report May 7, 2018





Mission Statement

Our mission is to support the segments of the Erie County Opiate Epidemic Task Force by improving the delivery of services for those affected, advocating for our loved ones while fortifying the community response of attaining our common goal of eliminating addiction, illness and death from opiate use.

We envision a joint effort to:

- show respect for all people
- minimize health, legal and social harms associated with substance use
- provide comfort and compassion to those affected by addiction
- advocate for available, affordable, comprehensive therapeutic services for the addicted
- educate the public
- focus on prevention
- reduce harm among families and individuals
- pursue legal enactments to further our goal.
- eradicate this public health crisis from our community and our homes



Goals

Save Lives.

**Eliminate addiction, illness and
death from opiate or opioid use.**

Advocate for our loved ones.



Purpose

- Raise Awareness by Public Education
- Educate Families of the Nature of the Disease
- Prepare those Affected for Management of the Disease
- Lobby for Our Cause
- Promote Narcan Training
- Offer Support



We are the New Normal

There are so many of us
now we are an
army and we are
growing bigger every day



Educate Each Other

- Black Balloon Day- March 6
- West Seneca Town Board -April 23
- Orchard Park Town Board -May 2
- Ongoing Narcan Training in the Community- Genesis Center
- Walk For Addiction Tonawanda- May 6





What We Learned

- Silence is Killing our Loved Ones
- This Disease is Insidious and Ugly
- Ignorance has contributed to the Death Rate
- This disease is misunderstood and we Underestimated it's Strength
- We have a long way to go
- A House Divided Will Not Stand
- A. Lincoln



People are Becoming Aware

- Conversations are occurring spontaneously
- We are all affected in some way
- Allowing someone to die is neither admirable nor attractive
- The Public is watching



Grief/Support Groups

Stutzman Treatment Center

360 Forrest Ave. Buffalo, NY 6:30pm

every 4th Wednesday of the Month

Hope Group Hamburg

Senior Citizens Center

Southwestern Blvd. 6:00pm

Hamburg, NY

3rd Tuesday of the Month



Social Media

Website-

www.opioidaffectedfamilies.com

Facebook Site-

Opioid Epidemic Family Section

Twitter-

ECOETF Family

We would LOVE an APP to services



We Made Strides

- Residual effects of this epidemic gained awareness -infant addiction and sex trades
- Treatment for Addiction and Mental Health is evolving
- Consequences for convicted drug dealers has shown marked increases



What Needs to Be Done

- People on pain medication should be closely monitored by family and medical
- Professionals from every Career need to treat our affected population with Dignity
- No one asking for Help should be Turned Away
- We need to develop a stabilization plan for each individual which includes acceptance
- Every interaction can be an opportunity to express concern and offer help



**We are a group of capable,
professional people who are
committed to finding solutions
to this public health crisis.**

We need your help.



"Alone we can
do so little,
together we can
do so much."

-Helen Keller

Thank You

